



P.O. Box 1118 • Rio Vista, CA 94571 • Phone (916) 777-4041 • Fax (916) 777-4042
[REDACTED] • www.californiadelta.org

August 3, 2011

Barbara Rice
Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program Leader
National Parks Service
1111 Jackson Street, Suite 700
Oakland, California 94607

Dear Ms Rice:

On behalf of the California Delta Chambers and Visitor's Bureau, I am writing to express my strong support for the Delta Protection Commission's (DPC) application to the National Parks Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program for the Great California Delta Trail. A regional trail system in the Delta will be of great value in furthering recreation and tourism opportunities of the Delta; enhance the visibility of the Delta as a destination, which the Chambers and Visitors Bureau actively promotes; and have economic benefits through connecting to local businesses in the Delta.

The Chambers and Visitors Bureau will be proud to partner with the DPC on the Delta Trail Blueprint Report process for Sacramento, San Joaquin and Yolo Counties. The Chambers and Visitors Bureau can assist the DPC with outreach to the recreational communities via our extensive mailing lists, and identification of persons in these communities to serve on the Technical and Stakeholder Advisory Committees.

The State Legislature deemed the Delta Trail of statewide recreation and transportation significance when it passed the legislation (SB 1556, Torklason) and the Governor concurred by signing into law January 1, 2007. The legislation mandates the DPC to complete a feasibility study and develop a plan for the establishment of a trail network through the five Delta counties. Using grant funding awarded by the California Coastal Conservancy, the DPC has already completed the process to develop a Great California Delta Trail blueprint in Contra Costa and Solano counties. The DPC is completing the Blueprint Report for Sacramento, San Joaquin and Yolo Counties in-house with limited staffing, and therefore in-kind assistance and partnerships are of tremendous value for the process.

We firmly believe that this project is closely aligned with the purposes of the NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program. What impresses us most about the project is the commitment to a broad, collaborative planning process which will ensure that hundreds of organizations and the public will be involved. Additionally, the Delta Trail will provide a much needed physical connection to various natural, recreational, cultural, historic, and economic resources throughout the Delta.



P.O. Box 1118 • Rio Vista, CA 94571 • Phone (916) 777-4041 • Fax (916) 777-4042

 • www.californiadelta.org

Again, the California Delta Chambers and Visitor's Bureau gives full support for the application for the NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program and looks forward to partnering with the DPC on the Delta Trail Blueprint Report process for Sacramento, San Joaquin, and Yolo counties..

Best Regards,

Bill Wells
Executive Director

Cc: Michael Machado, Delta Protection Commission
Alex Westhoff, Delta Protection Commission